

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

SEP 7 9 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WN-16J

Bruno Pigott, Assistant Commissioner Office of Water Quality Indiana Department of Environmental Management 100 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Re: US Steel Corporation, Gary Works NPDES Draft Permit No. IN0000281

Dear Mr. Pigott:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, has reviewed the above-referenced pre-public notice draft permit that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) sent to EPA on September 4, 2009. If IDEM proceeds to formally public notice a draft permit that is identical to the September 4, 2009 pre-public notice draft, EPA (a) does not intend to object to that draft permit and (b) intends to withdraw its objections to the draft permit that IDEM public noticed in July 2007.

We request that IDEM forward to EPA any significant public comments on the draft permit that it receives. Moreover, if there are significant public comments on the draft permit, we request in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(j) that IDEM prepare and transmit to EPA for review the proposed permit that IDEM prepares after the close of the public comment period prior to final issuance by the State. At that time, EPA will review the proposed permit in accordance with 40 CFR 123.44(a)(1), taking into account any public comments that IDEM has received on the draft permit.

We appreciate the hard work by you and your staff in developing this revised draft permit. Please contact me or Peter Swenson at (312) 886-0236 if you have any questions.

Sincerely.

Tinka G. Hyde, Director

Water Division